

This is Dan Lofthus, State Statistician for the USDA NASS MN Field Office with the weekly crop progress and condition report for the week ending August 15, 2021.

Scattered showers helped crops in some areas, but dry and hot conditions continued in most areas. There were 6.4 **days suitable** for fieldwork and field activities for the week included haying, harvesting small grains and chopping corn for silage.

Topsoil moisture supplies were rated 46% very short, 38% short, 16% adequate and 0% surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 43% very short, 41% short, 16% adequate and 0% surplus.

Corn in or beyond the dough stage reached 65%, five days behind last year. Corn dented reached 13%, two days ahead of both last year and the average. Reports were received of corn being chopped for silage. Corn condition rated 35% good to excellent. **Soybeans** setting pods reached 91%, six days behind last year but 1 day ahead of the 5-year average. Seven percent of soybeans are already turning color. That is the highest percentage turning color by August 15 since 1988. Soybean condition rated 29% good to excellent.

Spring wheat harvested reached 92%, at least 3 weeks ahead of both last year and the 5-year average. **Dry beans** dropping leaves reached 13%. Dry bean condition rated 17% good to excellent.

Oats were 86% harvested with **barley** 92% harvested. Harvest of both crops was nearly 2 weeks ahead of average. **Potatoes** were 18% harvested. Potato condition rated 60% good to excellent. **Sunflower condition** remained 29% good to excellent. **Sugarbeet condition** was 71% good to excellent.

The second cutting of **alfalfa hay** was 92% complete.

Pasture condition was 42% very poor, 35% poor, 16% fair, 3% good and 4% excellent. Some livestock operations have had to begin feeding hay due to poor pasture conditions.

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